



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (006340/00006)

Applicants:

Nagahara, et al

Application No.:

10/685,133

Filed:

October 14, 2003

Title:

Wear Protection for Musical Wind Instruments

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby state that the following:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- Copies of Form 1449 (One Form) and Notices of References Cited (Two Notices)
- Return Postcard

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, on January 8, 2004 and is addressed P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 8, 2004

Date

Ernest V. Linek (Reg. No. 29,822)

Attorney for Applicants Banner & Witcoff, LTD 28 State St. - 28th Floor Boston, MA 02109 Phone: 617.720.9600

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APPLICANT:

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SERIAL NO.

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Wear Protection for Musical Wind Instruments

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97, Applicant herewith submits the publications and/or patents shown on the attached form PTO-1449, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- X (1) within three (3) months of the **Filing Date** or before the mailing date of the **First Office Action** on the merits; or
- __ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance**, and the requisite Certification or fee under Rule 1.17(p), is included herein; or
- ____ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but before the payment of the Issue Fee, and the requisite Certification and fee are included herein.

IDS - Page 2 U.S.S.N. 10/685,133

It is respectfully requested that each of the documents shown on the attached form(s) PTO-1449 be made of record in this application. Copies of these documents (CHECK ONE):

are enclosed herewith; or

<u>X</u>

are in the file of related application Serial No. 09/919,154, filed July 31, 2001 and are thus not being resubmitted herein. A copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was submitted in this case is enclosed. It is requested also that prior art which was identified by the Examiner in two Office Actions for this case also be incorporated into this Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the Notice of References Cited documents are enclosed from each of these Office Actions are also enclosed.

Early examination and allowance of the present application are respectfully solicited.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 19-0733. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest V. Linek (Reg. No. 29,822)

Attorney for Applicant

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD. 28 State Street, 28th Floor

Boston, MA 02109-1775

(617) 720-9600

Date: January 8, 2004

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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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Filing Date						
First Named Inventor	Nagahara					
Group Art Unit	1					
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	01 022 KN					

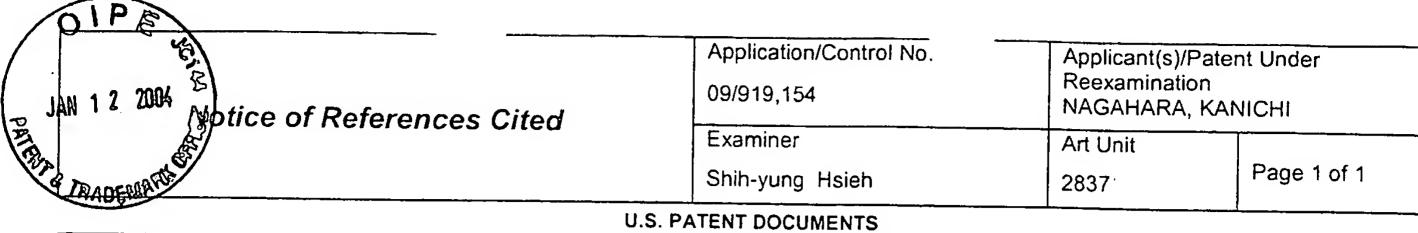
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial possible. ⁵Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

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*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).) Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

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